Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11 TRSE-00 OMB-01 ACDA-12 /079 W -------018670 041701Z /72

R 041500Z MAY 78 FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7709 INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA AMEMBASSY ATHENS

CONFIDENTIAL NICOSIA 1144

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, PEPR, CY, US

SUBJECT: PRESS SUGGESTS CLIFFORD NO LONGER ACCEPTABLE AS MEDIATOR

1. THREE GREEK CYPRIOT DAILY NEWSPAPERS MAY 4 SUGGEST THAT POSITION PRESENTED BY PRESIDENTIAL REPRESENTATIVE CLARK CLIFFORD BEFORE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES ON EMBARGO QUESTION HAS REVEALED HIS PRO-TURKISH BIAS AND ENDED HIS USEFULNESS AS A MEDIATOR ON THE CYPRUS PROBLEM. RELATIVELY MODERATE PHILELEFTHEROS, WHICH HAS LARGEST CIRCULATION IN CYPRUS, REPORTS THAT IN THE "GENERAL ESTIMATION" MR. CLIFFORD'S POSITIONS WERE SUCH AS TO EXCLUDE HIM FROM ANY POSSIBLE MEDIATORY ROLE IN GREECE OR CYPRUS IN THE FUTURE. PRO-GOVERNMENT ELEFTHERI KYPROS, MOUTHPIECE OF KYPRIANOU'S DEMOCRATIC PARTY, SAYS "RELIABLE INFORMATION" INDICATES THE GOC SERIOUSLY DOUBTS WHETHER MR. CLIFFORD COULD PLAY ANY ROLE AFTER HIS STATEMENT BEFORE SFRC. IRRESPONSIBLE AND ANTI-AMERICAN APOYEVMANTINI QUOTES "RELIABLE SOURCE" AS SAYING GOC CONSIDERS MR. CLIFFORD AS UNACCEPTABLE IN ROLE OF MEDIATOR ON CYPRUS.

2. COMMENT: WE HAVE BEEN UNABLE TO DETERMINE WHETHER CONFIDENTIAL

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OPINIONS EXPRESSED BY THESE PAPERS WERE PLANTED BY GOC, ALTHOUGH FACT THAT STORIES APPEARED IN THREE PAPERS SAME DAY RAISES THAT SUSPCION. GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN HAS SAID NOTHING IN HIS PRESS BRIEFINGS WHICH WOULD HAVE INSPIRED THESE REPORTS. THERE IS A RISK, EVEN IF GOC IS NOT BEHIND IT, THAT ANY CONCENTRATED PRESS CAMPAIGN AGAINST MR. CLIFFORD COULD ADVERSELY AFFECT

HIS MEDIATORY ROL	E
STONE	

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Message Attributes

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Subject: PRESS SUGGESTS CLIFFORD NO LONGER ACCEPTABLE AS MEDIATOR

TAGS: PGOV, PEPR, CY, US, (CLIFFORD, CLARK)

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